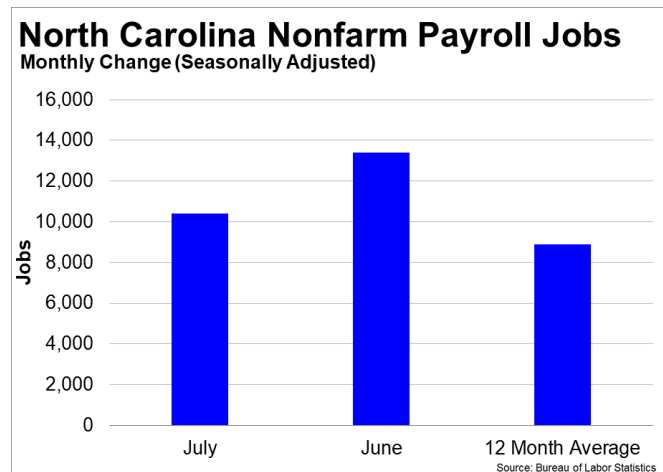
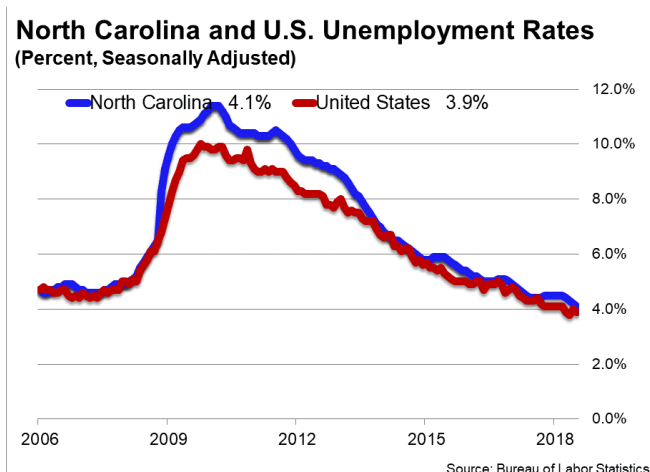


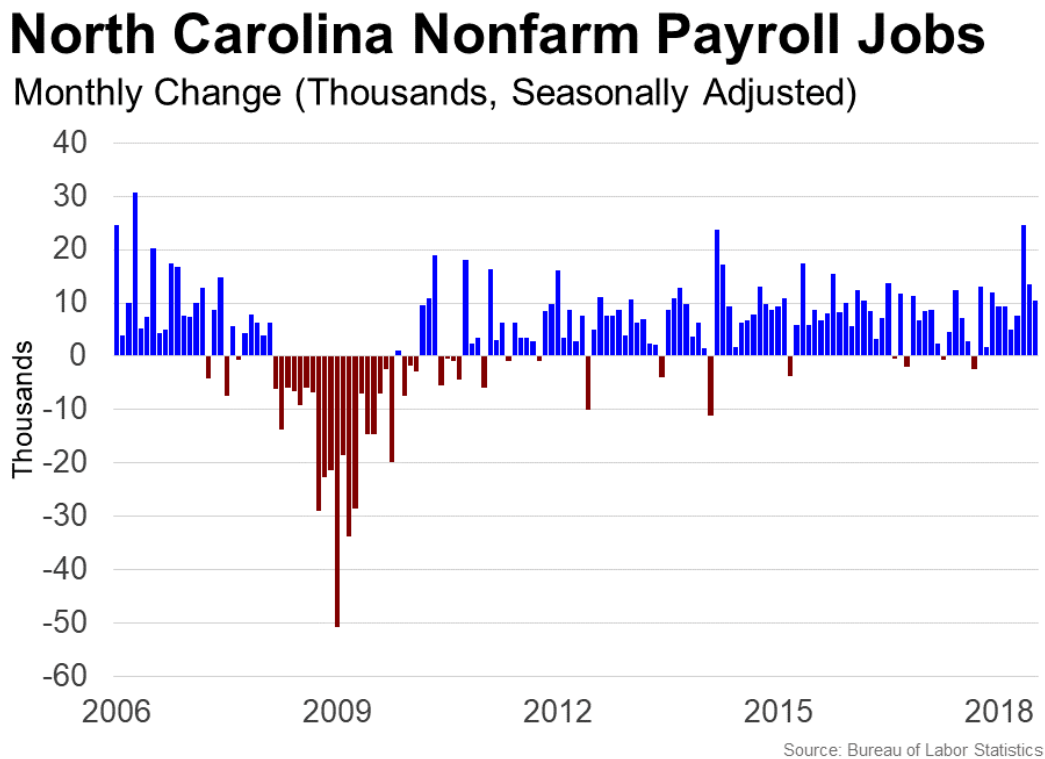


**August 17, 2018**

## **Summary**

- **North Carolina added 10,400 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.1 percent in July** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, North Carolina added 106,900 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point from 4.4 percent.
- **In July, North Carolina's private sector added 5,900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 101,200 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed North Carolinians fell by 6,170 in July**, and over the past year 70,096 North Carolinians found jobs.
- North Carolina's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 61.4 percent in July. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.2 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.9 percent in July**. State employment and unemployment data for August is scheduled for release on September 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for August will be released on Friday, September 7, 2018.





### **North Carolina Payroll Employment**

North Carolina added 10,400 jobs, or 0.23 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during July. In the prior month, North Carolina added 13,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in North Carolina increased by 106,900, or 2.42 percent. North Carolina nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

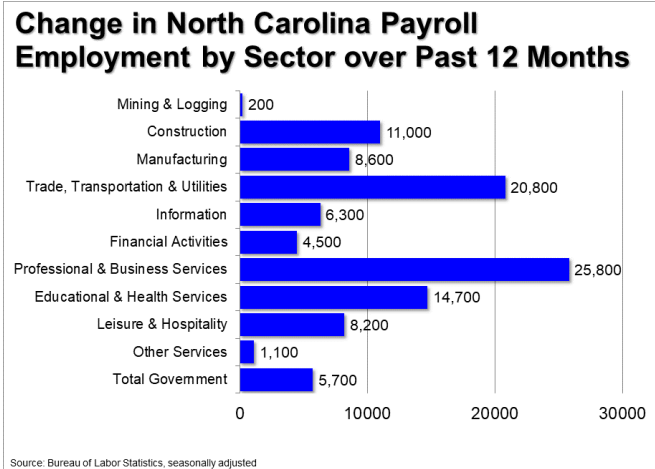
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 157,000 jobs in July, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending July 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,400,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. North Carolina ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During July, North Carolina's private-sector added 5,900 jobs, or 0.16 percent. The private-sector in North Carolina added 10,600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in North Carolina increased by 101,200, or 2.75 percent. North Carolina private-sector payroll employment has increased in 11 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 170,000 jobs in July, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,392,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.92 percent. North Carolina ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during July were Professional & Business Services (+4,600) and Total Government (+4,500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-2,000) and Other Services (-1,600).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+25,800) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+20,800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (+200) and Other Services (+1,100).



## **North Carolina Labor Force Statistics**

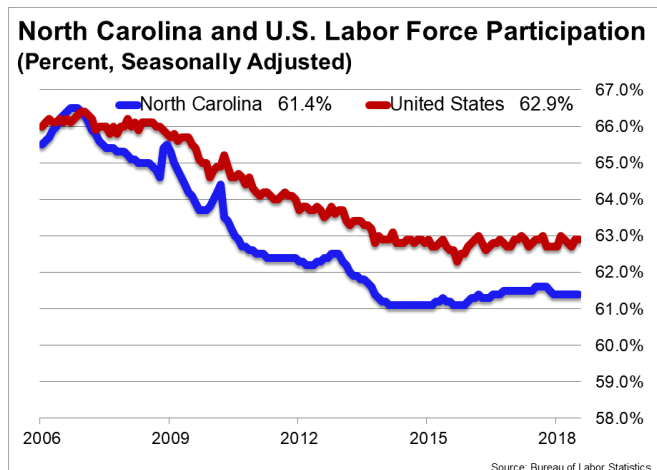
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in North Carolina was unchanged at 61.4 percent in July. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 38 have a higher labor force participation rate than North Carolina. The labor force participation rate in North Carolina is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in North Carolina was 65.5 percent in December 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in North Carolina occurred in December 1989 when the labor force participation rate hit 69.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 61.1 percent in November 2015. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in North Carolina. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the North Carolina civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 58.9 percent in July from 58.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 37 have higher employment-to-



population ratios than North Carolina. The employment-to-population ratio in North Carolina is unchanged from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in North Carolina was 60.9 percent in August 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in North Carolina occurred in December 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.6 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 55.9 percent in August 2011. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in September 2011 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.9 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.5 percent in July. That rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

